



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/024,913	12/19/2001	Keith Glen Fife	SCM-001	5507

8791 7590 07/14/2006

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030

EXAMINER

HANNETT, JAMES M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 4/17/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues that the examiner has mischaracterized the DC/DC converter (75) of Anderson as “power-isolation circuitry for isolating at least two power sources (battery 74 and voltage from AC adapter). The applicant asserts that Anderson does not disclose any structural relationship between an AC adapter and the DC/DC converter (75).

The examiner disagrees with the applicant. Anderson teaches the use of a digital camera having a power supply (17) as depicted in Figure 1. Furthermore, Anderson teaches the specifics of the power supply in Figure 3. Anderson teaches on Column 5, Lines 29-57 that the DC/Dc converter provides one or more regulated voltages on the power bus (68) to all of the camera's components. Furthermore, Anderson teaches that the voltage output from the DC/DC converter is regulated to provide an output within a 10% tolerance regardless of fluctuations in battery voltage. The examiner views the process of maintaining the regulated voltages on the power bus (68) at voltage levels different from the supply voltage (74) as a power isolation function. Furthermore, Anderson teaches the power source depicted in Figure 3 can be a battery (74) and further teaches that the power source can be connected to an AC adapter on Column 9, Lines 30-33. Therefore, the DC/DC converter separates the regulated voltages on the power bus (68) from both the battery voltage and the AC Voltage.

The applicant argues that Anderson does not teach the use of power arbitration circuitry (70) in communication with the power selection-isolation circuitry (DC/DC converter) and the battery charging circuit (AC adapter).

The examiner disagrees with the applicant. Anderson depicts in Figure 3 that the power manager (arbitration circuit) receives output voltages from both the DC/DC converter (75) and from the voltage sensor (76) which receives voltage from power source (74) which can be a battery or a recharging circuit. This is viewed by the examiner as the power manager is in communication with the power selection-isolation circuitry (DC/DC converter) and the battery charging circuit (AC adapter). The examiner points out that the claim is written broadly and does not give the specifics of the communication or discuss the type of signals being communicated.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1: Claims 1-3 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by USPN

5,963,255 Anderson et al.

2: As for Claim 1, Anderson et al teaches on Column 3, Lines 52-67 and depicts in Figure 1 a digital camera (10). Anderson et al depicts in Figure 4 and teaches on Column 6, Lines 34-67 the specifics of the control subsystem (20). Anderson et al depicts in Figure 4 a control subsystem (20) comprising a microprocessor (50). Anderson et al depicts in Figure 2 the specifics of the imaging subsystem (14). Anderson et al teaches an imaging subsystem (14) in communication with the controlled subsystem (20); and a power management subsystem (17) in communication with the control subsystem (20). Anderson et al depicts in Figure 3 and teaches on Column 5, Lines 29-58 the specifics of the power management subsystem (17). Anderson et

Art Unit: 2622

al teaches power selection-isolation circuitry (75) for isolating at least two power sources (battery (74) and voltage from AC adapter); battery charging circuitry (AC adapter) in communication with the power selection-isolation circuitry (75); and a power arbitration circuitry (70) in communication with the power selection-isolation circuitry (75) and the battery charging circuitry (AC adapter).

3: In regards to Claim 2, Anderson et al teaches on Column 6, Lines 63-67 a user interface subsystem (60 and 18) for providing a camera status and initiating a camera function.

4: As for Claim 3, Anderson et al teaches on Column 9, Lines 18-42 the power arbitration circuitry (70) comprises: a camera wakeup generation module in communication with the user interface subsystem (60); and a failsafe reset module in communication with the wakeup generation module and the microprocessor (50).

5: In regards to Claim 38, Claim 38 is rejected for reasons discussed related to Claim 1, Since Claim 1 is substantively equivalent to Claim 38.

Allowable Subject Matter

6: Claims 4-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

Art Unit: 2622

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M. Hannett whose telephone number is 571-272-7309. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on 571-272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James M. Hannett
Examiner
Art Unit 2612

JMH
July 5, 2006



VIVEK SRIVASTAVA
PRIMARY EXAMINER